

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT(S) : Jörg Wirtz et al.
TITLE : **TROUGH PAN FOR A FACE
CONVEYOR WITH A LOADING
RAMP**
APPLICATION NO. : 10/512,019
FILED : October 19, 2004
CONFIRMATION NO. : 1952
EXAMINER : Rashmi K. Sharma
ART UNIT : 3651
LAST OFFICE ACTION : August 30, 2006
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. : SHEE 2 00038

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In the Office Action mailed August 30, 2006, the Examiner restricted the examination of the present application under 35 U.S.C. § 121 to one of the following groups of allegedly distinct inventions:

- I. Claims 1-17 and 20, drawn to a conveyor pan, classified in class 198, subclass 735.2.
- II. Claims 18 and 19, drawn to a loading ramp for a conveyor pan, classified in class 198, subclass 735.1.

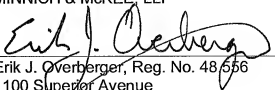
In response thereto, Applicant elects to continue examination of the invention(s) of Group I, i.e., claims 1-17 and 20. Applicant retains the right to continue prosecution of the unelected claims in one or more continuation or divisional applications.

With respect to the Examiner's comments concerning the restriction, Applicant does not acquiesce to any statements concerning the claims of this application.

If upon review of the above information, the Examiner has any questions concerning the same, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's attorney at the number listed below.

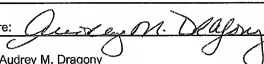
Respectfully submitted,

FAY, SHARPE, FAGAN,
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September 19, 2006
Date

| CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION | |
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| I hereby certify that this correspondence (and any item referred to herein as being attached or enclosed) is (are) being | |
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| Date: September 19, 2006 | Name: Audrey M. Dragony |

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